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Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Letter dated 5 October 2004 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

During the just concluded general debate of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, a very few countries once again raised the issue of so-called "Taiwan's participation in the United Nations". We strongly condemn and firmly oppose such a gross encroachment on China's internal affairs by brazenly using the solemn forum of the United Nations. I hereby solemnly state, upon instructions, China's position as follows:

1. Taiwan has been an inseparable part of China's territory since antiquity. Both the 1943 Cairo Declaration and the 1945 Potsdam Proclamation have reaffirmed in unequivocal terms China's sovereignty over Taiwan as a matter of international law. There is but one China in the world, and the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal government representing the whole of China. This is an objective reality that cannot be changed by anybody. To date, the overwhelming majority of the United Nations Member States have diplomatic relations with China. They all recognize the one-China principle, and they all recognize that Taiwan is a part of China.

2. The issue of China's representation in the United Nations was long solved once and for all, in political, legal and procedural terms. In 1971, the United Nations General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session adopted by an overwhelming majority resolution 2758 (XXVI), which stipulated unequivocally that the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China are the only legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations. Since Taiwan is a region of China, China's representation in the United Nations naturally includes Taiwan. Therefore, there is simply no such issue as the so-called "Taiwan's representation in the United Nations". Any attempt to distort or even deny the UNGA resolution 2758 (XXVI) is futile.

3. The United Nations is an intergovernmental organization composed of sovereign States. As a part of China, Taiwan is not eligible to participate, in whatever name and under whatever pretext, in the work or activities of the United Nations or its specialized agencies. On 15 September this year, the General

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Committee of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly once again flatly refused to include the so-called issue of "Taiwan's participation in the United Nations" in the agenda of the General Assembly. This has fully demonstrated the determination of the vast number of United Nations Member States to safeguard the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). It also shows that the Taiwan authorities are doomed to failure in their attempt to split China by raising the so-called issue of "Taiwan's participation in the United Nations".

4. The question of Taiwan is purely an internal matter of China. The position of the Chinese Government on the question of Taiwan is firm and clear. We will continue to adhere to the fundamental principles based on Mr. Deng Xiaoping's concept of "peaceful reunification and one country, two systems" and to Mr. Jiang Zemin's "Eight-point Proposal on the Development of Cross-Straits Relations and the Promotion of the Peaceful Reunification of the Motherland". Adherence to the one-China principle is the basis for the development of cross-straits relations and the realization of peaceful reunification. President Hu Jintao recently pointed out that we will try our utmost with greatest sincerity to achieve peaceful reunification, but we also have resolute will and are fully capable of destroying any attempt to separate Taiwan from China. To safeguard State sovereignty and territorial integrity and realize complete reunification of the motherland at an early date is the common aspiration and strong will of the 1.3 billion Chinese people, including our Taiwan compatriots. Nobody nor any force can change or stop it.

I have the honour to request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 25.

(*Signed*) **Wang** Guangya
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the
People's Republic of China to the United Nations